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# 05/20/1985 - Fred Neal Signs For Track

University Marketing and Communications

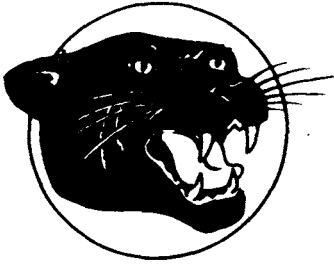
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# ***Panther Sports News***

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May 20, 1985

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Fred Neal, a middle distance runner from Dolton Thornridge HS, has signed a track scholarship to attend Eastern Illinois University this fall.

Neal is EIU's first track recruit this spring. He has run a 49.5 in the 400 and 1:55.7 in the 800, and according to a recent report in Illinois' Timely Times magazine has the state's fourth best time in the 800 and 16th fastest in the 400.

This past winter he won the 600 meters indoors in 1:22.7 at the Pepsi Challenge Invitational Track Classic at the Rosemont Horizon. "That's one of the best indoor prep meets in the state as they only invite the top performers," said EIU assistant Tom Akers.

His best time, though, in the 600 is 1:14.9, according to Akers. Neal has also been clocked indoors in 51.8 in the quarter and 2:00 flat in the half.

He competed for Thornridge's 3200 meter relay which finished 8th in last year's IHSA State Meet.

"Fred will definitely fill spots for us in a couple areas . . . I foresee him concentrating in the quarter and the half," said Akers.